HIS ROYAL HAREM AND HIS EUNUCHS

A \$10,000,000 Marriage and the Tartar Brides.

RICHEST EUNUCH OF CHINA

(Copyright, 1894, by Frank G. Carpenter.) Written for The Evening Star.



I WILL DEVOTE MY letter this week to the Emperor of China. He is the most secluded monarch on the face of the globe, and no race horse is guarded more carefully than he. His officials have him corralled in the center of the big Tartar city at Peking, and you have to go through three

sets of wails before you approach the building in which he is kept, guarded by eunuchs. First, there are the immense walls of the great Tartar city, which are sixty feet thick and as tall as a fourstory flat. These inclose a large area filled up with the houses of Tartars and government buildings, which run around a space in the center of which is known as the Imperial City. This has a high wall of gray bricks about six miles in length, and it includes the outside palaces, the pleasure grounds and the temples of the Sacred City. The emperor is kept in the third ren inside this, and his exclusive quarters are known as the Purple Forbidden City. The walls of this last pen are rigidly guarded. They inclose the



quarters of the emperor, his family, the ladies of the royal barem and the thousands of eunuchs who make up the servants. It has buildings in the center for court ceremonies, and there are small buildings arranged around on the two sides of a ridge of palaces, which runs from the north to the south. The emperor himself lives in the northwestern part of the pen, and the empress dowager has a palace near by. In another part of the in-closure is the hall of literary abyss, or the imperial library, and in this the cabinet officers hold their sessions, and it consains also a department of the royal treasury. No one outside of the foreign legations has ever gotten into the palces of the has ever gotten into the palaces of the Emperor of China, and no foreigner is permitted to see him. Our minister has been granted an audience, but even the Chinese of l'eking do not know how he looks, and of the hundreds of millions who r ake up the empire I venture to say that there are not five thousand men cutside of his eunuchs who have ever set eyes on him. He knows absolutely nothing about the actual condition of his people and capi-tal. When he goes out into the city mat-ting is hung up in front of all the houses and strips of cloth are stretched across and strips of cloth are stretched across the alleys and side streets through which the imperial procession must pass. Our minister warns all Americans not to go out at their peril, for the emperor is always accompanied by soluiers, and the man who peeps around the corner or has his eye fastened to a hole in the matting is liable to be higher than the corner or has his eye to be blinded with a bullet or arrow. The streets are fixed up for the occasion. All the booths and squatters are driven away and the roads are covered with bright yel-



low clay. Yellow is the imperial color, and I saw armies of half-naked coolles carrying such dirt into the city in wheelbarrows during my stay in Peking for one of the emperor's outings. It is the same when he goes into the country, and as some of his tours to worship at the tombs of his anestors extend many miles you will see that it costs something in the way of clay hauling to give aim a good track to move

The Emperor and His Wives. It is not easy to get reliable gossip about the Emperor of China, and the only view I had of his palaces was from the city walls, and during the time that I prowled round the gate with my snap-shot camera and my thines: photographer. Still, I met a number of officials who were quite close to the throne, and I got good information from one or two cunnels. I visited Peking six years ago, at the time that the empress dowager picked out his first wives, and some of the stories I will tell further on were given me in a whisper, and if their authors were known they might lose their heads. The truth of the matter is that the young emperor is by no means an angel, and the cunuchs told me that he hops up and down in his rage when anything goes against him. He is merely the tool of the old empress dowager, and he has been under this old lady's thumb since he was baby. She supervised his education. Si picked out his wives for him, and she mak wives for him, and she makes the ladies of his harem howl today if they don't walk chalk in her presence. Of course, took her own friends when she selected his wives, and she has him so hemmed about with her officials and girls that if he had a will of his own he wouldn't know how to use it. The emperor was seventeen years old at the time of his marriage, six years ago, and she gave him three wives to start ago, and she gave him three wives to start with. The selection was curious. All the pretty Tartar girls of the empire, numbering many thousands, were gathered together and sorted, and the best of them were sent on to Peking. The selection was first made by the governors of the provinces, and no girl was presented who was over eighteen nor under twelve years of age. The choice lots were dressed in the finest of riothes, and were carted from all parts of the empire into Peking. They were here submitted to the inspection of the old empress dowager, being brought into her presence in lots of five. She passed upon them as fast as she could, and weeded out the poorest and dullest. Those who remained poorest and duliest. Those who remained were taken out for the time and brought in in new lots, and so the sorting went on un-til the thousands had dwindled to the hundreds, the hundreds to scores, and the scores at last down to fifteen. These fifteen

girls were put into training. Their paces

EMPEROR OF CHINA

were tested, and all sorts of experiments were made as to their tempers and traits. After some months the old empress picked out the three girls she liked, and the eldest of these, who was eighteen years old, became empress. The two others became what are called secondary wives, or chief conci-bines, and these two latter were sisters, one of whom was thirteen and the other fifteen years old. The marriage of the emperor was celebrated on the day that the emperor was celebrated on the day that President Harrison was inaugurated, and you may have some idea of the occasion when I tell you that it cost ten million dollars. In addition to his wives, he has no end of concubines, and the laws of China provide that a sorting like that I described



High Chinese Lady Dressed Like the

Empress Dowager. must be made every three years of all the pretty Tartar girls in their teens, and that the most select of the lot must be shipped the most select of the lot must be shipped into the palace. The emperor is not restricted as to the number he takes, and he picks out those he likes best. He has a right to dismiss them at any time that he pleeses, but they usually remain until twenty-five years of age, when, if they have had no children, they expect to be sent away from the palace. They have no trouble, however in getting good husbands. The whole Chinese court is made up of intrigues ble, however in getting good husbands. The whole Chinese court is made up of intrigues and intriguers, and the nobles are glad to have their daughters in the royal harem. These Tartar girls have a dress of their own, and they wear long skirts instead of the silk pantaloons of their Chinese sisters. They do not bind up their feet, and there are no squeezed feet inside the imperial palace. They are indeed the prettiest girls of the empire. Their faces are a delicate cream verging on the bloom of a large yellow peach, and their black almond eyes are soulful enough to stir the blood of the coldest Caucasian. No man with such sursound enough to stir the blood of the coldest Caucasian. No man with such surroundings can devote much time to a little matter like that of a war with Japan, and doing what his highest officials and the old doing what his highest officials and the old empress dowager direct, amusing himself, in the meantime, with his wives and his eunuchs. He has, in fact, much the same place that the Mikado had in Japan under the Shoguns. He is a sort of a holy figurehead, and his officials know the more sacred they make him the more power will be given to them, and the more license for their squeezing and stealing.

Living by Law. Everything connected with the emperor is regulated by law. He has imperial physiclans who watch over his health. The law provides just what he shall eat, and I am told that he squats on the floor at his meals and eats out of golden bowls with ivory chopsticks. According to the old Chinese books, there must be placed daily before



The Latest From the War. him thirty pounds of meat in a basin and seven pounds bolled into soup. He has a daily allowance of about a pound of hog's fat and butter, and he has the right to order two sheep, two fowls and two ducks, while fat and butter, and he has the right to order two sheep, two fowls and two ducks, while his drink for the day is restricted to the milk of eighty cows and the steeping of seventy-five parcels of tea. It is probable that his real diet is different, and I doubt not he is now taking bits of roast leopard and tiger-bone soup to keep up his courage, for the Chinese think that these things really make a man brave. If he desires anything that is not on the menu, the board having charge of the imperial table has to having charge of the imperial table has to be consulted, so I am told, before he is

What the Emperor Looks Like. The emperor is by no means a physical giant. He is lean and unhealthy, and his features are long and unlike those of the typical Chinaman. His eyes are almost straight, and he bears the marks of his pure Tartar blood. His life is by no means conducive to health. He does all his business at night and he sleeps in the daytime. He begins his work about midnight, just after his breakfast, and he receives his cabinet ministers under the rays of the electric light. He has numerous audiences, and the big officials have to cool their heels in the ante-chamber of the palace of Peking quite as often as they do in the White House at Washington. When they are ushered into his presence they get down on their knees and bumn their heads again and and bump their heads again and again on the floor, and they have to remain on their knees while before him. Not long ago he took a notion to learn English, and two students of the college at Peking were ap-pointed as his teachers. He recited his lessons at 1 o'clock in the morning, and for some time these boys who acted as teachers



The Imperial Editor at Work majesty butchered the king's English before em. He kept up his studies for some but I was told in Peking that he had given

up the attempt. The Peking Gazette.

The Emperor of China is, to a certain extent, the editor of the famous Peking Gazette. This is the oldest newspaper of the world, and it has been published almost daily for eight hundred years. It was read by the Chinese centuries before America was discovered, and it was six hundred years old when the first daily newspaper of our civilization began its publication, in 1615. It is nothing like our newspapers, however. The copies, which are sent all over China, are more like the cheapest of over China, are more like the cheapest of patent medicine almanacs than anything else. They are bound in yellow covers, and are printed from blocks on the thinnest of rice paper. A page of the Peking Gazette is about three inches wide and seven inches long, and there are sixteen pages and up-ward in each issue. None of the issues con-

tain one-hundredth the amount of the material in one of the Saturday editions of The Star. The newspaper begins at the back instead of at the front. The lines run up and down instead of across the top, and you read from right to left across the page instead of from left to right, as with us. It has no advertisements, no editorials and no social gossip. The government allows no comments on its actions, and it is a crime to add to or subtract from its matter in its republication. The newspaper is made up of official acts and reports, and such of the reports as the emperor thinks ought to be reports as the emperor thinks ought to be published are looked over by him and he marks with a red pencil his comments upo them. These are pasted upon bill boards outside of the palace, and the scribes copy them into books, which are sent out each day. These first copies are the original issues of the Peking Gazette. They are beautifully approximately and the company of the peking Gazette. day. These first copies are the original issues of the Peking Gazette. They are beautifully engrossed, and they command a price of about a hundred dollars a year. Private printing firms buy them, and the engravers make blocks, from which the cheaper copies are printed. Some editions go for thirty cents a month, and numbers of Chinese families club together and buy these cheaper editions so that a man may pay perhaps families club together and buy these cheaper editions, so that a man may pay perhaps one-twentieth of a cent for reading a copy of the Peking Gazette. I have a bound volume of this paper, which has been translated into English, and I get translations every week in the English newspapers which I receive from China. Practically nothing is as yet given about the Chinese-Japanese war. except that in the issue of August 28 it is stated that "the empress dowager has sent 4000 boxes of cooling dowager has sent 4,000 boxes of cooling pills to the soldiers in Corea," and the cour-lers probably bring the news in on horseback and retail it to the people. There is no doubt that there is more lying done in the dissemination of official reports than can possibly be committed by American re-porters, and I learn from Peking that the people are kept in entire ignorance of what is going on in the war with Japan. In the Dark.

It is doubtful whether the emperor himself understands his real situation. He has, I venture, never reviewed his own army, and he knows nothing about military tactics. It is a common amusement with him to go out and shoot with a bow and arrow, and his only experience as to traveling by railroad has been in a small train of cars which a French syndicate, who wanted to get railroad concessions, presented to him. The train cost them, I am told, something like one hundred thousand dollars. The emperor refused to accept it as a gift, and sent them back the sum of ten thousand dollars, in order to relieve himself from any obligation. It is now six years since the present was made, and they have gotten no concessions. I saw these cars in Tien Tsin some years ago, when they were on their way to the emperor. They were carried into Peking by water, and his majesty had a track laid in the palace grounds, and they were run for a short time with steam. This, however, was too fast for his majesty, and I understand that he now harnesses up his eunuchs to the engine and has them whipped right royally by the brakemen, as he rides through the grounds. The emperor knows nothing of modern cililization and modern warfare. He does not even know his own country, and did he possess a great character it would have been ruined long since by his surroundings.

The Thieving Eunuchs. This is the man who is supposed to be at the head of the great Chinese empire, and who ought to be directing the war with Japan. He is, I am told, largely governed by his eunuchs. They have been his closest associates throughout his life, and different estimates state that he has all the way from four to ten thousand of these cunuchs in the palace. Our own minister, Col. Denby, says that he has actual information that there are at least four thousand, and when you remember that this immense colony is scattered over an area not much larger than that of a farm, you will see that eunuchs are thicker than blackberries in August. They are graded in different departments, and each has his own duties. Those of ordinary rank receive from two to Those of ordinary rank receive from two to twelve dollars a month, but they make fortunes out of squeezing and stealing, and there is one eunuch in the palace who is said to be worth more in the palace who is said to be worth millions. His name is Pi Tsiau Li, and he is the confidential servant of the old empress dowager. He is a great office broker, and I heard of in-stances of his getting a hundred thousand stances of his getting a hundred thousand dollars and upward for single offices, and I have no doubt that he divides his profits with the old empress. All of the officials of Peking are afraid of him, and though he could not proceed until they were made. began life as the son of a shoemaker, he has more power than many of the princes. His father was a cobbler in the city of know that the Valparaiso mechanic whom His father was a cobbier in the city of Tung Chow, about fifteen miles from Pe-king, but since his son has become so powerful the old man has been elevated to a fat office, and he has a feather in his hat. I saw a number of instances myself in Peling which gave me an insight into the king which gave me an insight into the stealing of these eunuchs. The finest of the silks and embroideries of China are made for the emperor. He has vast silk looms at Nanking, and he has great porcelain factories in different parts of Ch He receives his satin by the cartload, and

He receives his satir by the cartload, and one of his recent orders, as I see by the Peking Gezette, included thirty-four hundred rolls of silk gauze, five hundred rolls of brocades, and three hundred and seventy rolls of satin. He buys his pencils by the thousand, and paper is carried to Peking for him by the shipload. He receives many presents, and he can't keep track of all his possessions. The eunuchs sneak goods cut of the palace and hand them of er to second-hand peddlers, and I was offered gowns which were probably made for the royal harem again and again during my royal harem again and again during m stay in Peking, and you can buy fine pieces of embroidery there with the five-clawed dragon upon them, which is the imperial coat-of-arms, for a song. Many a fine piece of porcelain is smuggled out of the palaces and sold, and the officials probably

get a squeeze on all orders of goods that they make for the emperor. Just one word more about the ennuchs. The laws provide that none but those of royal blood shall have the right to employ them, and princesses can have thirty eunuchs, while the nephews of the emperor are restricted to twenty. Every fifth year certain of the officials of China are required to furnish for the use of the palace eight young eunuchs each, and these princ are paid three hundred dollars apiece for them. Even the priests who attend to the worship of the harem are eunuchs, and the emperor goes no place without them. There were several hundred guarding the roads when the foreign minister came into the audience, and the old empress dowager has quite a corps of them.

The Empress Downger.

The empress dowager will be sixty years old next month. She is said to be a most remarkable woman, and she has been practically the ruler of China for the past generation. She was the secondary wife or the first concubine of the Emperor Hien Fung, who died along about the time of the beginning of our civil war, and she has been practically the boss of the harem and empire since then. She was at the the empire since their was at the head of the empire during a greater part of the Kaiping rebellion. She managed its affairs during its war with France, and she had a little taste of Russian alplomacy in her fuss with the czar of some years ago. She is said to have a mind of her own, and all of the Chinese respect and fear her. She is a stickler as to form, and she insists that all business shall be done through the young emperor, though she really di-rects what he is to do. She is very vain, and she had consented to the spending of about twenty million dollars on the cele-bration of her birthday this year, and this money was being collected for the purpose when the war with Japan broke out. A large part of it is to be applied to the war, and if the Japanese approach Peking before large part of it is to be applied to the war, and if the Japanese approach Peking before the celebration it is probable that the old empress will really give the whole of it to the war, as she has promised to do. The the war, as she has promised to do. The empress dowager is even more secluded than the emperor, and when she receives her officials she sits behind a screen and the cabinet ministers get down on their knees and talk through it at her. She is said to look much like the ordinary Chinese woman, and I have a picture which looks, I am told, much like her. It represents a tall Chinese woman with a crown on her head and with a gorgeous silk gown decohead and with a gorgeous silk gown decorated with embroidery covering her person. She sits as straight as a poker, and looks as though she might be able to rule. The real photographs of the empress downager, the Emperor of China, and of the empress have never been taken control. empress have never been taken, and if they were they would not be allowed to go outside of the palace. One of the biggest magazines of the country recently published pictures which it labeled as those of the emperor and em-

press. Any one who has even a slight acquaintance with Chin; knows that the obtaining of real photographs of this kind is absolutely impossible, and I am surprised that the editors should have been so easily deceived. FRANK G. CARPENTER. Frank G. Carpenter

AN EVENTFUL VOYAGE

A Strange Meeting Among the Giant Patagonians.

REFUSAL OF A BIG BRIBE

Written for The Evening Star.



now Rear Admiral Brown, to deliver it in the Bay of Yokohama. He was to receive some fifty thousand dollars for the venture, but he was to provide his own crew and take all risks. Capt. Brown happened not to be on any regular duty at the time, and the Navy Department made no objections to his undertaking this commission in a private capacity.

To sail a monitor across two oceans was no easy undertaking. Of course, he went around Cape Horn, and, of course, he had to make frequent stops for coal. One of his stopping places for this purpose was Punta Arenas, in the Straits of Magellan. While the coal was being stowed the captain went ashore, and among the interesting things he found there was a camp of giant Patagonians, fellows whose dress consisted of a bunch of feathers on their heads and a bunch of feathers on their heads and a shoestring around the loins. One day while he was straying along through their camp he was decidedly surprised upon hearing himself accosted by one of them, in good English, with: "How are you, George Brown?" The man was dressed like the rest of his companions and was duly painted according to the custom of the Patagonians and the captain did not recognize him ans, and the captain did not recognize him as any one whom he had ever seen before; but he soon found that his acquaintance was an old schoolmate whom he had known in Indiana when he was a boy, and who was here masquerading as a savage. Capt. Brown's friend had gone to sea when a boy, been stranded in that region, joined the tribe, adopted the Patagonian customs and was then one of their "big Injuns."

The captain saw his acquaintance several times. At first he seemed contented with his lot, but after a few interviews he confided to the captain that the meeting with him had made him homesick for the United States, and when the vessel was ready to leave he asked to be allowed to come aboard and to be carried to San Francisco. He said that he would have to wait until the last moment and then watch his oppor-tunity to slip aboard unseen, as his com-panions would kill him if they knew he was intending to leave them. The captain consented, and when the monitor got under

Hoodwinking a Chilean. The vessel's next stop was in the bay of Valparaiso, Chile. Some portion of the engine had given out, and it was necessary he would have to call upon to make the repairs would "stick" aim for five or six times what the job was worth if he found out that the vessel could not sail unless charge. Accordingly, he gave out that he had put in for coal, and while the coal was being stowed he sauntered into town in a state of mind of apparent unconcern. Dropping into the machine shop of the place, as if casually, he talked about things in general, and finally mentioning the fact that his vessel needed some repairs, he remarked that he didn't know but that he might have them made in Valparatso if they could

be done without causing him delay.

The mechanic was anxious to get the job, and offered to examine the vessel and make a bid. This was just what the captain did not propose that he should do, at least not until the bargain was concluded, for if the machinist saw what state his vessel was in he would have him at his mercy. "Oh, you needn't take that trouble," said

the captain. "What I want is a new cylinder (or whatever it was that was out of order). The mechanic wanted five thousand dol-

"Five thousand dollars! Oh, well; I see that you don't want the job. I'll wait till I get to Sen Francisco." get to Sen Francisco."

Finally, after a good deal of dickering—
the captain all the while saying that he
guessed he would wait till he got to San
Francisco—a price was agreed upon and a
contract was drawn up and signed. When
the shipmender saw the state that the vessel was in, and that it could not possibly
have teached San Francisco without the rehave reached San Francisco without the re-pairs, he realized that the Yankee captain

had outwitted him. In a Quandary.

Finally, after many stops and all corts of delays, the menitor steamed into the harbor of Yokohama. Capt. Brown congratulated himself upon the successful issue of his risky undertaking, and contemplated with satisfaction the prospect of receiving the comfortable sum for which he had contracted to deliver the vessel but when he went ashore he found that a complication had arisen. Since he left the United States there had been a rebellion in Japan and two parties were then contending for the control of the government. He had contracted to deliver the vessel to the Japanese government. But which was the government? Who represented it? He conferred with the American representatives in Japan, but they were unable to decide the question. They advised him to wait until it appeared which

party constituted the de facto government, and this he decided to do. The contest was so close that it was believed that the possession of the monitor would turn the scale in favor of the party that obtained it. Representatives from both sides besigged him to deliver the yes sel to them, and both offered him the stipu-lated sum for its delivery. It was a great temptation. The captain wanted money badly. His crew had not been paid, and it was becoming clamorous. Besides there was danger that the vessel would be forci-

bly seized during the night, and in that event he would probably lose his pay alto-gether. gether.

It was a trying situation. The harbor was dotted with ships of half a dozen nationalities, all watching the course of events and waiting the outcome of the struggle. Such was the state of things that for any one of these nations to have decided that one or the other party represented the rightful government would be contained. decided that one or the other party repre-sented the rightful government would have been a disregard of international courtesy and might have involved serious complica-tions with other countries. Captain Brown was there as a private citizen of the United States, but he was in fact an officer in the navy of the United States, and he realized that it would not do for him to take any action favoring either side expectables. action favoring either side, especially as his action, if taken, would probably settle the conflict in favor of the side whom he

He kept his crew aboard the monitor and stayed aboard himself every night, taking every precaution against a surprise and A Big Bribe.

Matters had gone on in this way for sev-eral weeks when one day he was approached by a Japanese, who told him that tending parties wished to see him; that this man did not wish the captain to know who he was, and he did not wish their interview to be known, and he asked him to consent to be blindfolded, and to be taken in a closed jinrikisha to the residence of the person who sought the interview. The cap-

After Our War.

NTIUL VOYAGE

Meeting Among the nt Patagonians.

Meeting Among the patagonians.

Meeting Star.

Soon After The close of our war our government sold to the Japanese government a monitor called the "Stonewall Jackson." This monitor had belonged to the confederates, but had, at some time, come into our possession. The Japanese sion. The Jap

come into our possession. The Japanese having purchased it, made a contract with Capt. George Brown, trown, to deliver it in the contract with contract with capt. George Brown, the was requested to show the Japanese how to manage the vessel, which he did. The next day, looking out into the harbor, the saw the monitor steaming about in the saw the monitor and paid the cash for its delivery. he saw the monitor steaming about in a cir-cle as it had done when he was showing the Japanese engineer how to run it. To his surprise, however, it kept on steaming around, and didn't come to anchor. At length a flag was hoisted, and pretty soon a boat went out to it. In a little while the boat came back and a messenger was sent to find the capiain and to request him to came out to the vessel, as its new engineer didn't know how to stop it. The captain politely compiled with this request, and the next day he sailed for New York.

JOSEPH B. MARVIN. a boat went out to it. In a little while the

Women and Men.

From All the Year Around. Women cannot leave the men alone. That war cry of theirs, "Whatever a man can do woman can," is pregnant with meaning of which they themselves appear to be unconscious. Whatever a man does they dochiefly because a man is doing it. If a man did not do it, they would not do it either. They crowd the risky entertainments be-

They crowd the risky entertainments because the men are there. They read and write the suggestive books because their first and foremost theme is invariably the relations of the sexes.

They play masculine games merely because they are masculine. I would venture on something of the nature of a prophetic utterance. It is this: If every man were to leave off playing golf tomorrow there would not be a female golf player left in England in a month. Heaven knows that there are a good many of them just now! Where the men lead the women follow. The "dear creatures," as the old-time "bucks" used to have it, always did run after the men; it seems that just now they are running after them a little harder than ever they did. That, from the social point

ever they did. That, from the social point of view, is the Alpha and Omega of the cry of the "independent" women; that is not seldom the meaning of "women's rights."

It is the right of a woman not to be far away from a man.

An Ordinary Woman. From the Detroit Free Press.

It Was What He Needed.

From the Detroit Free Press. The woman was bringing suit for divorce from her scoundrel of a husband "He has robbed me of my good name, she said, weeping, to her attorney.

"My dear madam," he replied, consolingly, "don't take it so hard. Is there anybody who needs a good name more than he

A Desire to Please.



Brother Browse, the Mormon elder, had a long and lissome beard.



Hence, of course, his second consort used to flout at it and scoff.

And her daily tearful prayer was that he'd



And lived happy

Summer Experiences. THE MEN HAVEN'T MUCH TO SAY

The Chappie Who Has Bought His Clothes in London.

THE SEASON'S OPENING



8 A WRITER FOR A The Star was ing along the street a few days ago he saw two girls almost rush into each other's arms.

"Oh, I am so glad to see you," said

"And I am so glad to see you," the other one exclaimed.

"Come along," the said in chorus, "let's go home and compare notes about the sum mer. I have just had a lovely time," and they went their way, both talking at the same time, and full of so much information that it was evident one visit would never suffice to exhaust it all.

It would be interesting to know what the details of a "lovely time" are from a young girl's point of view, but it is quite certain to involve a good deal of company, some agreeable men and perhaps a flirtation. If there has been an engagement it would not be spoken of so lightly. The en-

are apt to spend more money than they can really afford on their vacation and the subject may be a little sore to them on that account that account. "How d'ye do, old man; been in town all

Thus one swell addressed another whom he met on the street a few days ago.
"Yes, I have," was the reply, "but how on earth did you know it?"
"Oh, you have the unmistakable air of

From the Detroit Free Press.

She was versed in mathematics, physics, calculus, quadratics, and the compass's declension that and to her cabe root's extraction was as simple as substraction; she could figure vajor's tension to nine declinals or more;

Browning, who makes people skelly, was as plain to her as Shelley; William Shakespeare's masterpieces, line for line, she could recall;

She wetter; she roll levine on Exyotian archimists the property of the could expense of the pressure of the she could recall;

She would need to speak;

She could tell just how far distant every asteroid and tell pust how far distant every asteroid and the astronomic nomenchature she could talk masteromic for the shares brailed astronomic nomenchature she could the property of the property of the property of the pressure of the pressure

like very much to remit if he had anything to do it with. He has spent all his money, It went for boats and horses and hotel bills. He spent a great deal upon that beautiful girl he met. As he settles down to his city life he wonders whether he will ver see her again, and whether he really

made a wise investment.

Did he get any adequate return? He hardly knows yet. Perhaps before the winter is over he will see her again, and then again, and something may come of the then again, and something may come of the hours and days he spent in her society at the summer resort. Or perhaps her image will remain in his mind for a week or so and then quietly fade away. Next summer he will be ready for another summer girl, and so the summers will pass, until finally comes crusty with age or perhaps gets married.

But the person who comes back to town has spent the summer in Europe. He has changed. It seems to be a rule of almost universal application that the man who goes to Europe should come home somewhat different from what he was when he left. It may be that his accent, like his mind, has broadened, and that he has acquired various new words with which to express his meaning. He now takes a "barth" in stead of a bath, and keeps "dorgs" instead of dogs. He wears "top-coats" and packs his "boxes," and complains to the "guards" that he cannot find his "luggage." He wears "boots" instead of shoes, uses the "lift" instead of the elevator, and calls a clerk a "clark." It may be that travel has not changed his speech but his better. not changed his speech, but his habits. He may abhor ice, and refuse to take a hearty breakfast in the morning.

His Clothes From London. A change also usually manifests itself in his clothes. If he has any money he buys quant of them, and especially is this true if he has been to London. The writer met one of these men recently and talked with him.

"Been to London, you say, and what did you get there?" "Clotnes," replied the youth. He may have seen Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's, but he has brought home no recoilection of them. He only remembers visits to the tallor "What tailor did you patronize?" you ask

"Bond, on Regent street, the Prince of "Bond, on Regent street, the Prince of Wales' tailor," he says.
"Realiy? And he is the tailor to the prince? How do you know?"
"His sign says so, and he has an official appointment, signed by the prince's secretary, hung up in his shop."
Poor youth! There is no use in talking to

him. Nearly every tailor in fashionable Leadon has one of these appointments. They are regularly sold, just as licenses are. Not a dozen of these tailors make gar-ments for the royal family. To find a tailor on Regent street who has not got the lio and unicorn above the door of his shop would be rather a difficult task. The signs are bait with which fish of the sucker fam-

lly are caught. If you continue to converse with the "chappie" who spent the summer in England you will find that he has, by a strange perversity, bought many things in Lendon which are known to intelligent men London which are known to intelligent men to cost less and to be of superior quality in this country, and he may even in his in-fatuation bring home several pairs of those leather skiffs which Englishmen put upon their feet and call shoes. If somebody tellic him English shoes are better than Ameri-can, he will believe it, and pay no attention can, he will believe it, and pay no attention to the evidences of his own senses, which point the other way. You see, he takes everything on trust, and, with the strange perversity which characterizes many feeble minds, he always believes the man who tells hira wrong. If one man gives him a correct opinion he will, perhaps, accept it, but he harbors it unwillingly, and will dismiss it as soon as some one agreems to give

miss it as soon as some one appears to give him an incorrect opinion.

When the Social Season Opens. As for this question of people returning to town it is really very important to

RETURN OF SOCIETY ALAS! THEY DO NOT KNOW. The Girls Chatter Gaily About Their This is the Great Tronb'e With

Many Women.

AND THE CAUSE OF TROUBLE

A Prominent Professor Gives Some Timely Hints Which Are Amply Confirmed by Facts.

bles." The president of a medical college who uttered these words looked very soleum; was very sad. He had just seen a hopeless case of a charming woman who was near to death.

"In nine cases out of ten," he continued, "the causes of women's troubles are the same, and yet it is seldom realized by their friends, themselves or their physicians. Thousands of women are in the first stages of Bright's disease of the kidneys The symptoms are shown by headaches, depressed



but unfortunately do not realize. Now, thes would not be spoken of so lightly. The engaged girl would probably be strangely quiet, but such a look of patronizing superiority would beam from her eyes that there would be small chance of her concealing what had happened from other girls. Of course, she could conceal it from men as long as she chose, for they are notoriously as blind as bats in all matters of this kind.

These girls will probably talk about their summer experiences until the end of October. Then the topic will be about the coming winter season. The girls who are already at home lie in wait for the others and salute them as they arrive with a volley of questions. In this way the girls in a certain set know all about each other, and if you go and see one of them you can get the news about all the others.

Men and Their Vacations.

It is somewhat different with men. They say a few words about the summer and then let it go. For one thing they have not enjoyed long vacations as a rule and they do not care particularly about discussing happenings in the city, for they are all familiar with them. For another thing they are apt to spend more money than they can really afford on their vacation and the subject may be a little sore to them on that account.

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those people who depend largely upon others for the luxuries of life. Three or four young men were walking up

Connecticut avenue and comparing notes,

sumption of the gay life there is a transition stage, when only a part of the fashionable set are back and when this part remains quiet. What becomes of those who have not yet returned is always somewhat of a mystery. They are not at the summer resorts, for these are closed up and are no longer habitable, and they are not at their homes. Those that have country places of their own are, of course, easy to locate, because every one knows they choose to spend October in the country, but what becomes of the others? If you go to New York you will find some of them there shopping, but this only accounts for a small proportion, and you will find the country. you will find it an exceedingly difficult task

to tell where are the rest.

Give them a week or so longer, however, and they will all have emerged from their hiding places, and the glorious Washington autumn life will begin.

EXPLOSIVES CAN BE PLAITED INTO CORDS. Prof. Abel Produces a New Gelatine

That Has Destructive Powers. From the Chicago Tribune. A new explosive, manufactured by the

government, has lately drawn much attention. It is called "cordite" and is an invention of Professor Abel. It is in the main a similar product to the smokeless powders of other nations. The name "cordite" originates in the process of manufacture, during which the gun cotton, after being combined with a sort of explosive gelatine, is pressed through a plate with fine openings, thus receiving the stape of fine threads. The object of this process is that by proper selection of the thickness of the threads, it offers great latitude in the control of the swiftness of the explosion, which is, in other powders, attained by the finer or coarser grain of the particles. One can, therefore according to requirements, manufacture a quickly combustible explosive for mining purposes, or a slowly burning, driving pow er for projectiles. Cordite can be plaited into cords, which naturally increases its availability for practical use. The judicial side of the cordite manufacture offers special interest, as the well-known firm of Alfred Nobel—the inventor of dynamite had instituted a lawsuit against the Eng-lish government for infringement of its patent rights. But, although the modern manufacture of explosives rests mainly on Mr. Nobel's efforts, the firm lost its suit because the fundamental patents had expired.

HE WAS ECONOMICAL.

And Did Not Want to Lose by Having Only One Leg. From the New York Herald.

A curious advertisement appeared in some of the morning papers the other day to the effect that a one-legged man would hear something to his advantage by applying at a certain address. Though not one-legged myself. I called there and found the advertiser to be a Grand Army man who had lost a leg at Antietam. Questioned as to why he had inserted the advertisement which attracted my attention, he gave this explanation:

"My idea," he said, "is to find a man who has lost his left leg. You notice that my right is gone. Now, I pay \$8 a pair for my shoes, and I wear about five pair a year. That makes \$40. And besides that, I wear a great many socks, which also count up

a great many socks, which also could up considerably.

"You can readily see that if I can find a man who has lost the other leg, and wears the same size shoe that I do, we can whack up, and by buying our shoes and stockings together we would make considerable."

I apologized to the old gentleman for my curiosity in the matter, and went away thinking to myself what a wonderful thing